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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGEN

BIOGRAPHIC REPORT SECURITY INFORMATION

NAME TATSUMI, Eiichi (Former Lt. Gen.)

CASE No. DATE 15 January 1952

NATIONALITY Japanese

BIRTHDATE
BIRTHPLACE Native of Saga Pref., Japan

PRESENT POSITION Military Advisor to Prime

RACE

LOCATION Japan

MARITAL STATUS NAME OF SPOUSE

GEN. OCCUPATION Military Officer

CHILDREN

RELIGION

EDUCATION Graduate, Military Academy; Graduate, Army Staff College.

POLITICAL AFFILIATION

LANGUAGES

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ATTITUDE TOWARDS: U.S.

HONORS

U.S.S.R.

CAREER:

--- Member, Department of the Inspector of Education.

Engaged in military research, Europe.

-- - Staff Nember, Kwangtung Army.

--- Instructor in Military Science, War College.
--- Section Chief, Imperial General Headquarters.

1939-1941 Military Attache, Japanese Embassy, London.

1940 Promoted to Hajor General, August. 1942 Returned to Japan, a/o October;

Returned to Japan, a/o October; Appointed Chief of Staff, Japanese Air Force, 1 October.

1944 Promoted to Lieutenant General, April:

Co-director of plan to collect scrap iron from Japanese dominated

areas, August.

1951 Influential advisor on military affairs to Prime Minister Yoshida,

a/o September.

REMARKS:

Complete biographic references on Lt. General TATSUMI Eiichi are not available now to this office. However, Tatsumi is known to be a native of Saga Prefecture, Japan, and is a graduate of the Hilitary Academy and the Army Staff College. After holding a position in the Department of the Inspector of Education, Tatsumi went to Europe to undertake military research. Later, he served successively as Staff Member of the Kwangtung Army, Instructor in Military Science at the Army Staff College, and as a Section Chief at Imperial General Headquarters. In December 1939, he became Military Attache at the Japanese Embassy in London, 1/ was promoted to Major General in August 1940, 2/ and was still in England when Japan attacked Pearl Harbor

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TATSUMI. Eiichi (Former Lt. Gen.)

Remarks (continued)

in December 1941.]/ A more recent source notes that in England Tatsumi served under YOSHIDA Shigeru, who was then Japanese Ambassador to Great Britain.3/

Along with other diplomats, Tatsumi was returned to Japon in the summer of 1942 on the exchange ship, the Tatsuta laru. In a Japanese radio broadcast he was named as one of those who arrived at Singapore 16 September 1942.4/ Tatsumi has been reported to have been Chief of Staff of the Fast Japan Army.2/3/ This information is refuted in two available sources as follows: On 2 October 1942, both the Associated Press and the United Press erroneously reported (from a German broadcast of a dispatch from Takyo) that Tatsumi had been appointed "Chief of Staff of the Eastern Defense Zone".4/5/ One of these sources states that on 1 October 1942, Tatsumi was appointed Chief of Staff of the Japanese Air Force.4/ Tatsumi was promoted to Lieutenant General in April 1944.2/ As of August 1944, he was co-director with Lt. General ANDO Kisaburo of the plan to colloct scrap iron from Japanese duminated areas.5/6/

Reportedly, Lt. General TATSUMI Efficient is on very friendly terms with Prime Minister Yoshida, and probably his most influential advisor on military affairs. Tatsumi has recently been concerned with developing a plan, proposed by Yoshida, for the augmentation of the National Police Reserve as a solution to the rearmament issue. In addition, Tatsumi sids the government in the matter of the screening of former regular army field officers; he advises concerning who should be depurged and which of those purgees are qualified to become members of the National Police Reserve.3/

SOURCES:

1/ FCC, OJB, H 723, 1 October 1942, Restricted.
2/ State, BI Files, Undated, Confidential.
3/ CIA, SO-75534, 7 November 1951, C-3, Secret.
6/ CES, R&A, Far Mastern Section, 19 November 1942, Confidential.
5/ State, BI Files Roport, 14 July 1942, Confidential.
6/ CES, R&A, Far Mastern Section, Washington, D. C., 10 August 1944, Confidential.